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REMARKS

In this Response, Applicant amends the specification, amends claims 19-33, cancels claim 31 and adds new claim 34-35 in order to traverse Examiner's rejections.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Examiner objected to the amendment to the specification filed on July 11, 2002, as the passage reading "The first access port and the second access port each provide mutually independent access to the memory buffer. The second bus is not connected to the first bus." Applicant traverses this objection: no new subject matter was provided in the earlier amendment to the specification. In particular, the specification as filed clearly states that its buffer memory 5 can be a dual ported RAM, allowing simultaneous, and therefore independent, access to the RAM by processor 7 and ciphering processor 13. This dual, independent bus structure is also seen in Fig. 2 showing an embodiment having memory 5 connected to ciphering circuit [sic] 13 via one bus and memory 5 connected independently to processor 7 via another bus.

Examiner objected to the amendment to the specification filed on July 11, 2002, citing that the Summary of the new claims were directed to a different, new invention. Applicant traverses this objection: the specification supports both claims having a preamble directed towards a "system for ciphering data" and claims having a preamble directed towards a "system for ciphering data for transmission by a communication device". Clearly the specification as filed is directed towards a system and method for encoding and decoding serial data. See the

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Field of Invention at page 1, lines 4-7. Further, the specification states that the data processed by the embodiment may be transmitted elsewhere: "When data is being secured for transmission via a wide area network, the integrity information is stored with the ciphered information." [underlining added]. See page 5 at lines 18-24.

Examiner objected to the amendment to the specification filed on July 11, 2002, in regards to the term "message digesting module". Applicant traverses this objection: the specification as filed supports the amendment. In particular, the specification as filed states that "An MD5 block [of the embodiment] performs data integrity hashing and verification according to MD5. As used herein the term data integrity hashing is equivalent to message digesting (MD). The DES, MD5, and SHA-1 methods are well known in the art." [underlining and text in brackets added.] See Fig. 3 and at page 6 line 20 to page 7 line 6.

In any event, in view of amendments made to the claims herein, a revised summary is submitted for entry which is compatible with the claims presented herein. As such, Applicant hereby cancels the amendment provided on July 11, 2002 relating to the summary section of the specification and provides the replacement amendment herein. In the replacement amendment, the phrases to which the Examiner objected are not present. Support for the replacement amendments are found in Figs. 2 and 3 and their accompanying description at page 6 line 20 to page 9 line 7.

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IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 19-30, 32-33 amended herewith and are directed towards aspects of the invention. Claim 31 is cancelled as aspects of it are incorporated into amended claim 19. New claims 34 - 35 are added and are directed towards a method related to the invention.

Applicant amends the preamble of claims 19-30 and claims 32-33 to be directed towards system for ciphering a packet in a data stream received by a communication device. Exemplary support for processing a data stream from the specification as filed in the Field of Invention at page 1, lines 4-7, in Fig. 2 illustrating an embodiment, in particular, the bus arrangement to the memory buffer, and a description of the embodiment at page 5, line 11 to page 6, line 20.

Claim 19 is amended to include a definition as to how the defined elements interact to process the data stream to cipher the data and to illustrate the independent operation of data processing, by a data processing processor, and ciphering, by a ciphering processor on a file stored in memory. Support for these amendments is found in Fig. 2 illustrating an embodiment and a description of the embodiment at page 5, line 11 to page 6, line 10.

Amendments to claims depending from claim 19 are made ensure proper antecedents. Further support for the claim is found in the specification in Figs. 2 and 3 and the description at page 6 line 11 to page 9, line 7.


New claims 34 and 35 are directed towards a method for ciphering data as described in the specification as filed. Exemplary support for these claims is found in Fig. 2 illustrating an embodiment and a description of the embodiment at page 5, line 11 to page 6, line 10 and at page 8 line 21 to page 9, line 7.

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No new matter has been added by way of this amendment. By way of the present amendment, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action in due course is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to discuss this case further, if necessary.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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